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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/665,721	09/18/2000	Sukhdeep Samra	080398.P288	5421

7590 12/31/2002

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EXAMINER

TRAN, TAM D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2676

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/665,721	SAMRA, SUKENDEEP
Examiner	Art Unit	
Tam D. Tran	2676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2000.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____ .
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ . 6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jin (PN 5880858).

2. In regard to claims 1, 15 and 29, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine), comprising: scanning images and auto-cropping images (reading at least sequence of images); and performing frame detection, see col.1 line 25- col.2 line 60.

3. In regard to claims 2, 3, 12, 16, 17, 26, 30, 31 and 39, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine) wherein every cropped region can be checked sequentially to locate the correct position (determining the active region of a current image of the sequences of images), see col. 2 lines 25-60.

4. In regard to claims 4, 5, 6, 7, 18, 19, 20, 21, 32, 33, 34 and 35, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine) wherein method including comparing the pixels in every horizontal row and vertical column with low threshold, see col. 2 lines 25-60.

5. In regard to claims 8, 9, 22, 23, 36 and 37, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine) comprising: performing frame detection, see col.2 lines 5- 60.

6. In regard to claims 10, 24 and 38, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine) comprises: the differences between every pixel characteristic value and every central characteristic value are calculated and then absolute values of the differences are taken, see col.4 lines 35 -45.

7. In regard to claims 11 and 25, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine) wherein mask image (smooth factor) is processed to crop the object, col.5 lines 33-42.

8. In regard to claims 13, 14, 27, 28 and 40, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine) wherein initial value can be added between initial values a1 and a2 (adding boundary), see col.4 lines 60-65.

9. In regard to claims 41 and 42, Jin teaches method of auto-cropping images for scanners (method, system and machine). As to the storage device and the network, it is inherent that every computer has storage device, memory and network communication.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is **703-305-4196**. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30 – 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **703-308-6829**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding
should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose
telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Tam Tran

Examiner

Art unit 2676



Kee M. Tung
Primary Examiner